

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

July 20, 2007

## Contact Person

John W. Vaudreuil  
Assistant U.S. Attorney

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Robin Coven-Brunson, 53, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in Madison to a charge of committing mail fraud by fraudulently obtaining unemployment benefits totaling \$8,698. Chief Judge Barbara B. Crabb scheduled sentencing for October 10, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. Coven-Brunson faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

The Information filed by the United States Attorney alleges that Coven-Brunson was employed full-time as a legal assistant doing secretarial work for the U.S. Department of Justice at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with total annual pay of \$48,910. During the period from September 25, 2005 through March 25, 2006, Coven-Brunson worked full-time and was paid approximately \$19,014 for that time period. During that same time period, Coven-Brunson fraudulently applied for unemployment benefits from the Wisconsin Department of Work Force Development and obtained unemployment checks totaling \$8,698. Reimbursement for these payments was then made from the United States

Treasury to the State of Wisconsin.

United States Attorney Peterson stated that today's guilty plea was the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Inspector General. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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